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# PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

FEATURING:  
THE BLACK CAT,  
THE KINGPIN,  
THE ANSWER,  
CLOAK & DAGGER,  
SILVERMANE...



...AND WHAT THE  
WELL-DRESSED  
SPIDER-MAN  
IS WEARING  
THIS SEASON!





ALL IS  
DARKNESS.

IT IS A DARKNESS UNLIKE  
ANY MERE NIGHTTIME BLACK--  
AS THICK AND PALPABLE AND  
REAL AS ANY SUBSTANCE  
THAT EXISTS IN THIS WORLD.

ONLY THIS DARKNESS IS  
NOT OF THIS WORLD.

IT IS THE  
DARKNESS THAT  
IS CLOAK!

MINUTES AGO, AS HE WAS  
STRUGGLING TO FREE HIS  
COMPANION, DAGGER, FROM  
THE GRASP OF SILVERMANE,  
THE BEING CALLED THE  
ANSWER SWOOPED DOWN  
AND WRESTED HER AWAY!

HE HAD TO PURSUE THEM, BUT  
WITHOUT DAGGER TO FEED  
HIS DARKNESS, HE LACKED  
THE POWER TO DO SO.

BUT BEFORE HE COULD USE  
THE POWER OF HIS CAPE  
TO TRANSPORT HIM INTO  
THE DARK DIMENSION, THE  
BIONIC FORM OF SILVER-  
MANE, LURCHED FORWARD  
INTO THE EBON FOLDS.

CLOAK HAD  
TO RESCUE  
HER FOR,  
WITHOUT  
DAGGER'S  
ABUNDANT  
SUPPLY OF  
LIGHT TO  
SUSTAIN HIM,  
HE WOULD  
HAVE TO STEAL  
THE LESS  
PLENTIFUL  
LIGHT FROM  
THE SOULS  
OF OTHERS.

HIS CAPE SWALLOWED THE  
DRUG DEALERS WHOSE  
SORDID BUSINESS HAD LURED  
HIM HERE--SEEKING TO  
USE SOME OF THEIR LIGHT  
TO NOURISH HIMSELF.

FOR SILVERMANE TOO,  
NEEDED DAGGER'S LIGHT, THE  
LIGHT SHE HAD STOLEN  
FROM HIM-- THE LIGHT HE  
SENSED WITHIN CLOAK.

SPIDER-MAN AND THE  
BLACK CAT WERE LEFT,  
GAPING ON THE DOCKS!



NOW, WITHIN CLOAK'S DARKNESS, SILVERMAN FEELS THE LIGHT THAT ONCE WAS HIS. HE IS DRAWN INEXORABLY TOWARDS IT.



THIS IS NOT ALL OF HIS LIGHT--BUT SOMEHOW, ON A LEVEL BELOW CONSCIOUS THOUGHT, HE KNOWS HE MUST HAVE IT!

REACHING OUT HE GRASPS THAT LIGHT...

**AAAARGGHHH!**



THE PAIN--!

I HAVE NEVER KNOWN SUCH PAIN!

ABRUPTLY, CLOAK IS HURLED BACK FROM DARKNESS TO THE EVERYDAY WORLD.

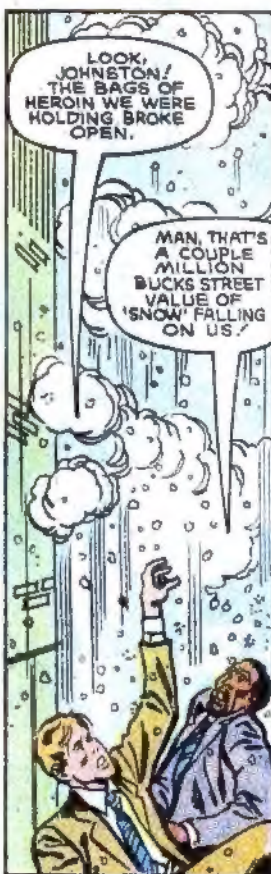
FRANTICALLY TRYING TO EXPUNGE THE PAIN, HE THRUSTS THE DRUG DEALERS FROM HIM...



**THUD**

OOF! W-WE'RE BACK!

BUT FR-FROM WHERE? IT WAS SO C-COLD!



LOOK, JOHNSTON! THE BAGS OF HEROIN WE WERE HOLDING BROKE OPEN.

MAN, THAT'S A COUPLE MILLION BUCKS STREET VALUE OF 'SNOW' FALLING ON US!

YEAH, BUT WHY IS IT STILL FALLING--THERE WASN'T THAT MUCH...

HEY--! IT--IT'S COLD! THAT'S REAL SNOW--



--AND THIS IS THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST?

BUT HOW--?

ARRR! THE PAIN! HOW CAN I STOP THIS AWFUL PAIN?!



\*FOR THE REASON BEHIND THIS SNOWFALL, CHECK OUT THOR #349, ON SALE NOW--DANNY.



STAN LEE  
PRESENTS

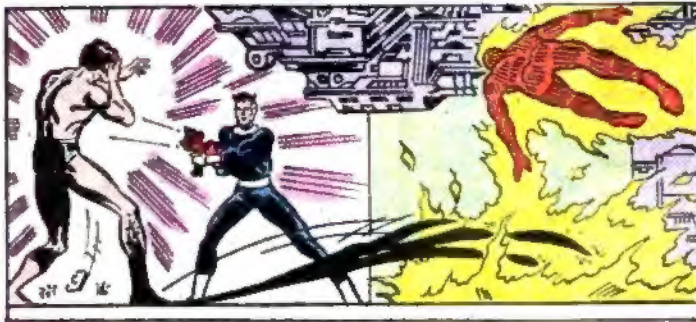
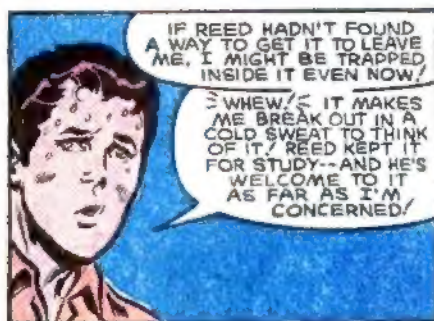
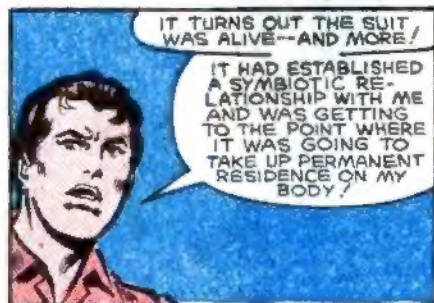
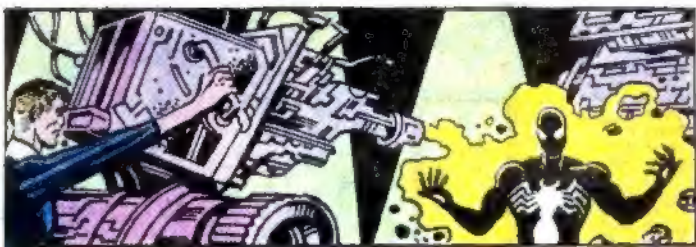
# THE FINAL ANSWER!













LOOK OUT, WORLD!  
THE SPECTACULAR  
**SPIDER-MAN** IS  
BACK IN HIS OLD  
COSTUME!

AND THE  
ORIGINAL IS  
STILL THE  
GREATEST!







NOW, I'LL JUST FLIP OUT THE SKYLIGHT ONTO THE ROOF--

-- AND GO TO MEET MY LADY LOVE, FELICIA HARDY, BETTER KNOWN AS THE...



BLACK CAT!

SPIDER?! YOU'RE BACK IN YOUR OLD COSTUME? HOW COME?

IT'S A LONG STORY, CAT. I'LL FILL YOU IN LATER.



RIGHT NOW, I THINK IT'S MORE IMPORTANT FOR US TO TRACK DOWN DAGGER!

THE LAST WE SAW SHE WAS BEING SNATCHED BY THE ANSWER-- AND WE BOTH KNOW WHAT A DANGEROUS CHARACTER HE IS!

WHY SO MUCH CONCERN FOR THE SWEET YOUNG THING, SPIDER?



IS SHE ANOTHER ONE OF THE CUTIES YOU'VE LURED INTO YOUR ROMANTIC WEB?

HUH?

FIRST I FIND YOU WITH THAT RED-HEADED BIMBO\*, NOW YOU SEEM TO HAVE MORE THAN AN ORDINARY INTEREST IN DAGGER!

\* MARY JANE WATSON-- AS SEEN IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #258-- DANNY.



COME ON CAT! DAGGER IS JUST A KID! SHE'S IN OVER HER HEAD, AND I DON'T TRUST HER PARTNER, CLOAK, TO BAIL HER OUT!

IN SPITE OF HIS FEARSOME APPEARANCE AND WEIRD POWERS, HE'S JUST A KID HIMSELF! BESIDES, I'M STILL IN THE DARK AS TO WHAT THEIR CONNECTION IS TO SILVERMANE.

I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD! AND HOW DOES THE ANSWER FIT INTO THE PUZZLE? ANY IDEAS?



ER... NO.

BUT I KNOW THE ANSWER WORKS FOR THE KINGPIN-- I KNOW BECAUSE I HELPED THE ANSWER SNATCH SILVERMANE'S BODY FROM THE MORGUE AS REPAYMENT FOR THE KINGPIN HELPING ME ACQUIRE SUPER POWERS.

I HEARD ENOUGH FROM THE ANSWER TO KNOW THAT SOMEHOW THEY REVIVED SILVERMANE'S BIONIC BODY-- WITHOUT RESTORING HIS MIND!

BUT I CAN'T TELL SPIDER THAT! IF HE FINDS OUT ABOUT MY CONNECTION TO HIS ARCH-ENEMY, THE KINGPIN, HE'LL NEVER TRUST ME AGAIN!



IF ONLY I'D MANAGED TO LAND MY SPIDER-TRACER ON SILVERMANE BEFORE HE DIVED INTO CLOAK'S CAPE--! SOMEHOW HIS ROBOTIC BODY SEEMS TO BE TRACING DAGGER-- FOLLOWING HER!

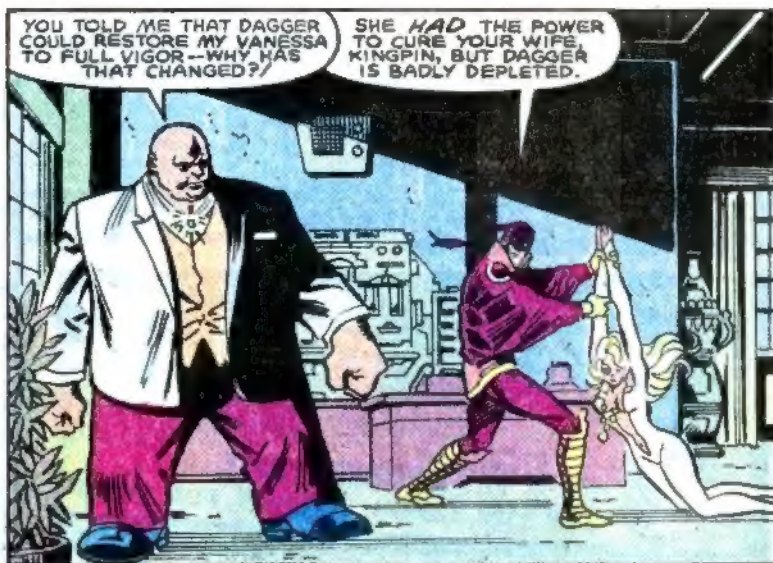
BLAST! C'MON, LET'S GET GOING!





WHILE ACROSS TOWN, AT THE POSH PENTHOUSE APARTMENT OWNED BY THE KINGPIN OF CRIME...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN SHE CAN'T DO IT?!



YOU TOLD ME THAT DAGGER COULD RESTORE MY VANESSA TO FULL VIGOR--WHY HAS THAT CHANGED?!

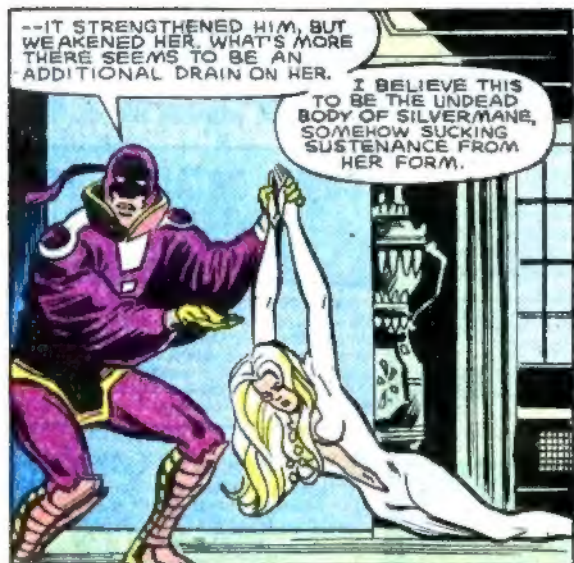
SHE HAD THE POWER TO CURE YOUR WIFE KINGPIN, BUT DAGGER IS BADLY DEPLETED.

RARELY DOES THE KINGPIN SHOW EMOTION, BUT NOW HE FAIRLY QUIVERS WITH FRUSTRATED RAGE...



BUT HOW-- WHY?!

ON THE DOCKS SHE THREW SOME OF HER LIGHT KNIVES AT CLOAK--



--IT STRENGTHENED HIM, BUT WEAKENED HER. WHAT'S MORE THERE SEEMS TO BE AN ADDITIONAL DRAIN ON HER.

I BELIEVE THIS TO BE THE UNDEAD BODY OF SILVER/MANE, SOMEHOW SUCKING SUSTENANCE FROM HER FORM.

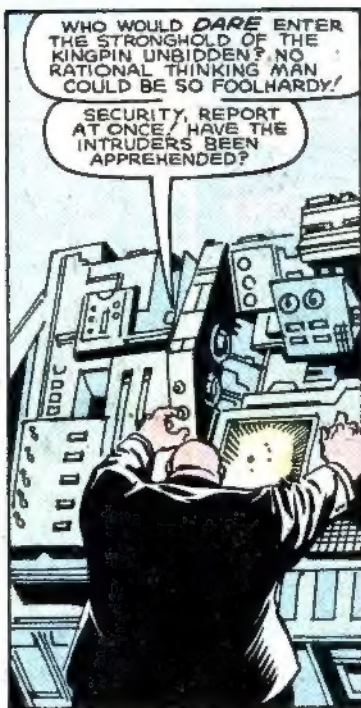


AND HOW DO YOU KNOW THIS?

AM I NOT... THE ANSWER!

OF COURSE.







WHILE IN THE APARTMENT  
OF MARY JANE WATSON...

SNOW! HOW WEIRD! WELL, IN  
A WAY IT SORT OF SUITS MY  
MOOD! IT WAS GOOD SEE NG  
PETER AGAIN! REAL GOOD. BUT  
NOT LIKE IT WAS BEFORE.

THERE'S ONLY A SPARK THERE  
SOMEWHERE, WHERE THE FLAME  
OF ROMANCE ONCE ROARED.

HA! GET ME! "FLAMES OF  
ROMANCE"! IT SOUNDS LIKE ONE  
OF THOSE TRASHY NOVELS YOU  
GET AT THE CHECK OUT  
COUNTER OF THE SUPERMARKET.

I TOLD PETER  
THAT I KNOW  
HE'S SPIDER-MAN!  
AND I LET HIM  
KNOW HOW MUCH  
IT SCARES ME  
TO THINK OF  
THE R.S.K.S HE  
TAKES \*

\* OF COURSE IT HAPPENED  
IN ASM # 258. WHY DON'T  
YOU JUST BUY A COPY  
ALREADY?! --DANNY.

THAT'S WHY  
I CAN'T ALLOW  
MYSELF TO BE  
ANYTHING MORE  
THAN FRIENDS  
WITH HIM... EVER!

HE'S BETTER OFF WITH THAT STRANGE  
BLACK CAT CHICK OF HIS WHO'S WILLING  
TO SHARE THE ADVENTURES... AND THE  
DANGERS HIS SPIDEY IDENTITY  
ENCOUNTERS

I WAS CONCERNED TO HEAR  
WHAT PETE WAS SAYING ABOUT  
FLASH THOMPSON, THOUGH  
SOMETHING ABOUT TROUBLES  
WITH HIS GIRL, SHA SHAN

I ALWAYS SORT  
OF THOUGHT ABOUT  
FLASH AS THE MALE  
VERSION OF MYSELF--

--POPULAR, BREEZY,  
DON'T LET ANYTHING  
GET YOU DOWN

MAYBE HE'S KEEPING  
SOMETHING BOTTLED  
UP INSIDE HIM AS BAD AS  
WHAT'S BOTHERING ME. I'LL  
CALL HIM-- MAYBE A CONVER-  
SATION WITH A KINDRED  
SPIRIT WOULD HELP.

BUT

TOO BAD...THERE'S  
NO ANSWER. HOPE HE'S  
NOT STUCK SOMEWHERE  
IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS  
FREAK SNOW STORM!

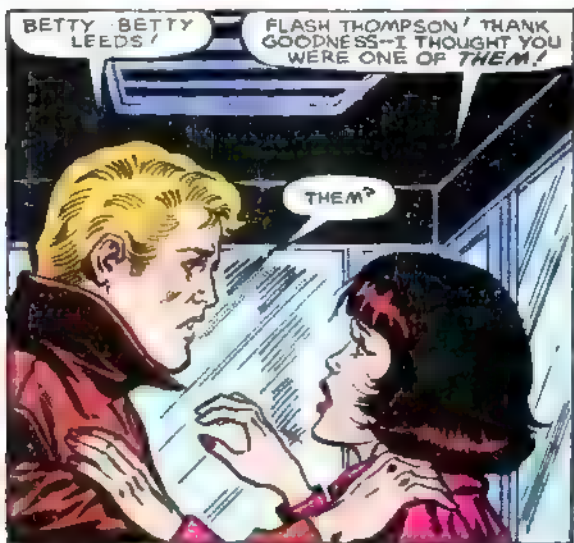
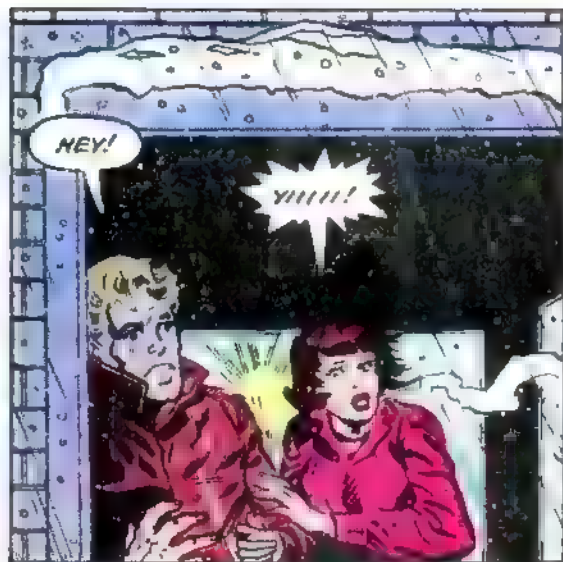
WHILE, IN THE MIDST  
OF THAT SNOW...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS  
LUCK! THE SNOW IS  
RUNNING MY PLANS! ONLY  
FLASH THOMPSON COULD  
GET THIS KIND OF LOUSY  
BREAK. SNOW IN THE  
MIDDLE OF THE  
SUMMER!

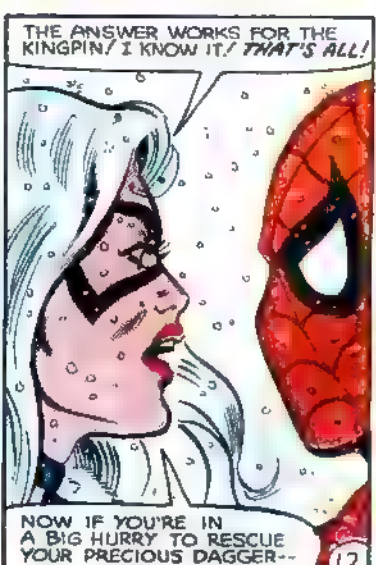
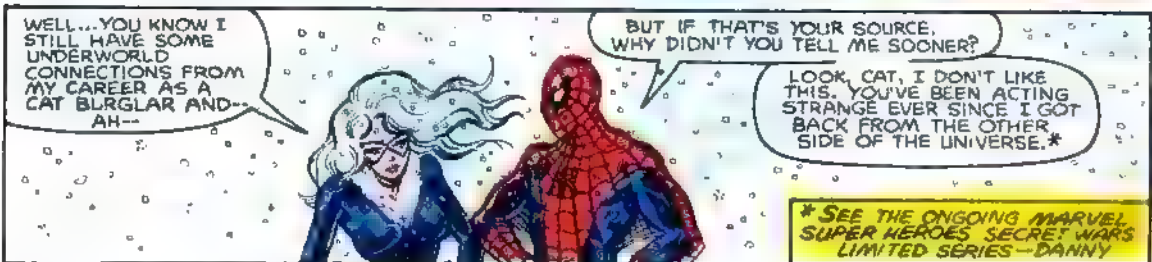
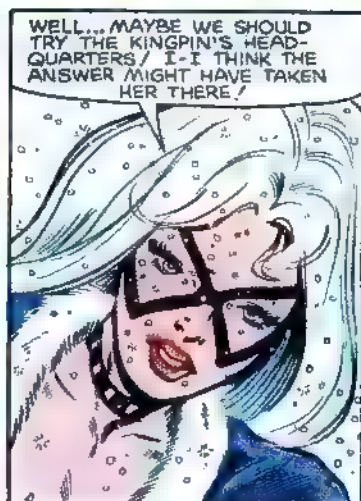
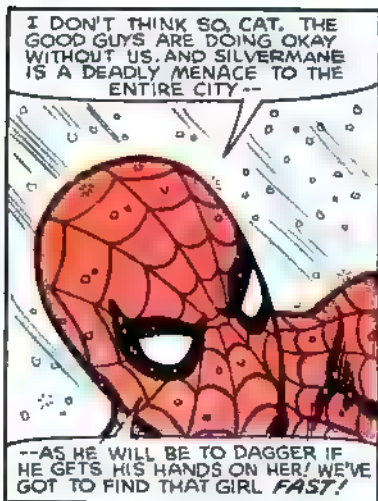
BUT THE WEATHER'S  
NOWHERE NEAR  
AS COLD AS MY  
TWO-TIMING GIRL-  
FRIEND, SHA SHAN!  
IMAGINE HER  
GOING OUT ON  
THE SLY WITH  
PUNY PARKER!\*

\*A MISINTERPRETATION  
BY FLASH OF ISSUE  
#94'S EVENTS--DANNY. 10







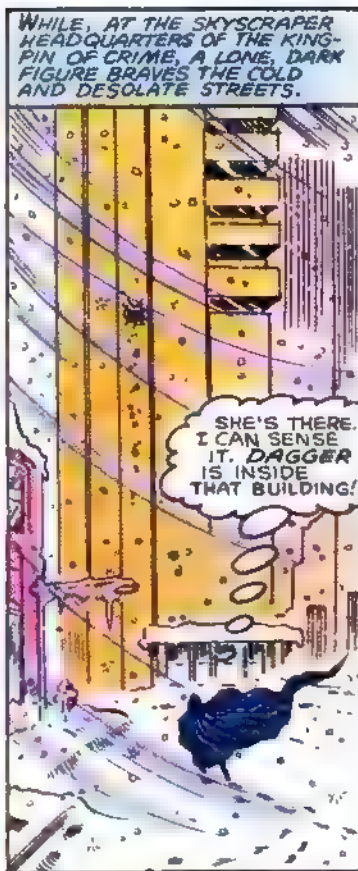






--I THINK WE'D BETTER GET GOING RIGHT NOW!

ALL RIGHT, BUT THIS ISN'T THE END OF IT!

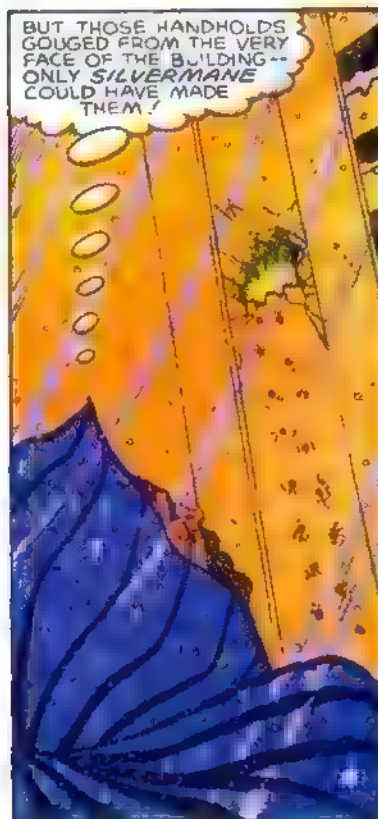


WHILE, AT THE SKYSCRAPER HEADQUARTERS OF THE KING-PIN OF CRIME, A LONE, DARK FIGURE BRAVES THE COLD AND DESOLATE STREETS.

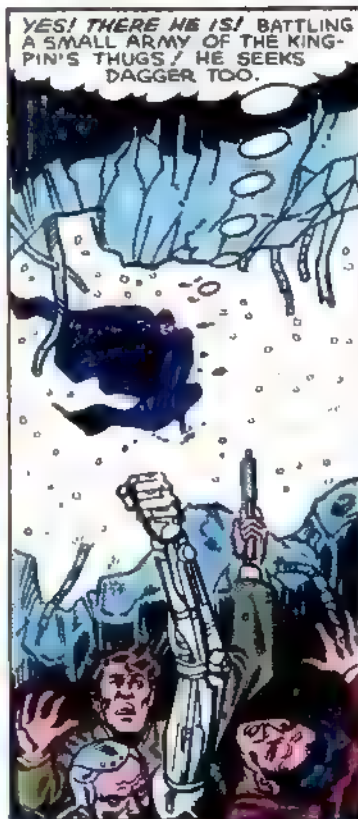
SHE'S THERE. I CAN SENSE IT. DAGGER IS INSIDE THAT BUILDING!



I WAS SO WEAKENED WHEN SILVERMANE TORE LOOSE FROM ME THAT I DARED NOT USE MY WANING ENERGIES TO TELEPORT MYSELF HERE. I HAD TO FOLLOW DAGGER'S EMANATIONS ON FOOT.



BUT THOSE HANDHOLDS GOUGED FROM THE VERY FACE OF THE BUILDING-- ONLY SILVERMANE COULD HAVE MADE THEM!



YES! THERE HE IS! BATTLING A SMALL ARMY OF THE KING-PIN'S THUGS! HE SEEKS DAGGER TOO.

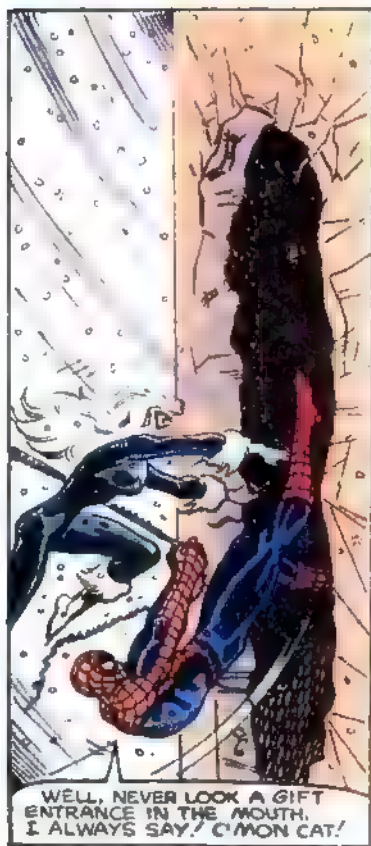
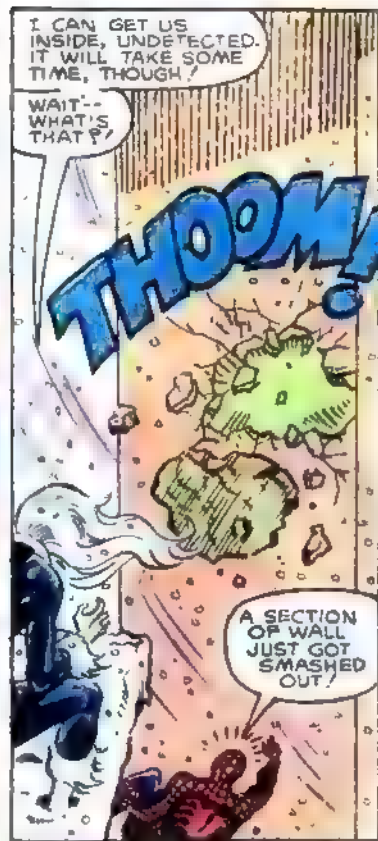
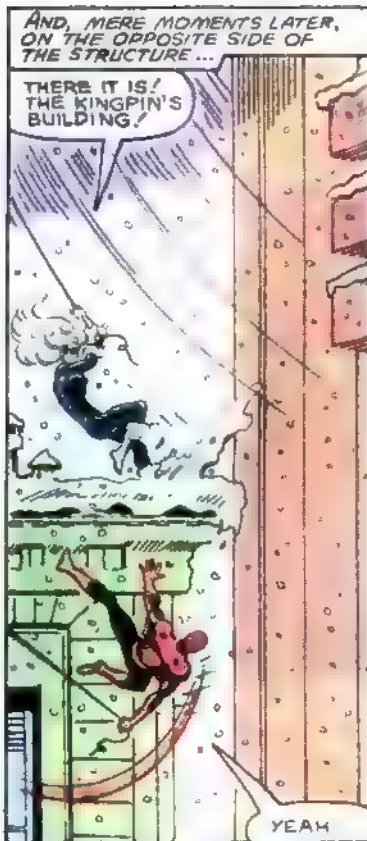


BUT HE MUST NOT REACH HER FIRST! I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO MUSTER MY LAST RESERVES OF STRENGTH, WRAP MY CLOAK ABOUT ME--

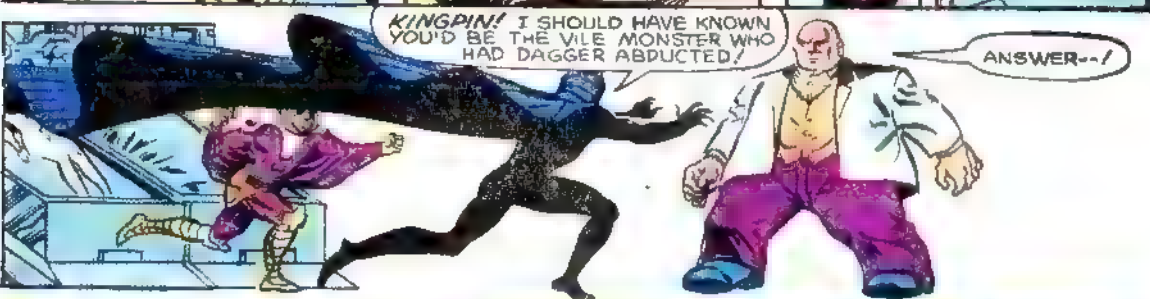
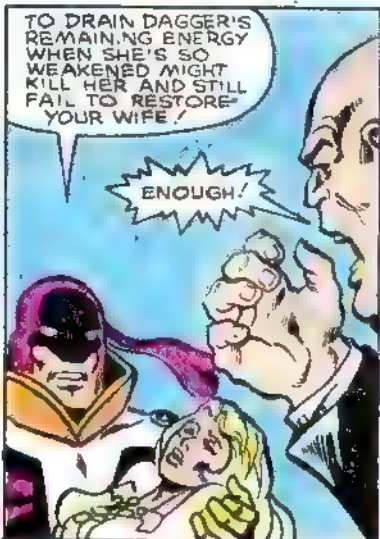
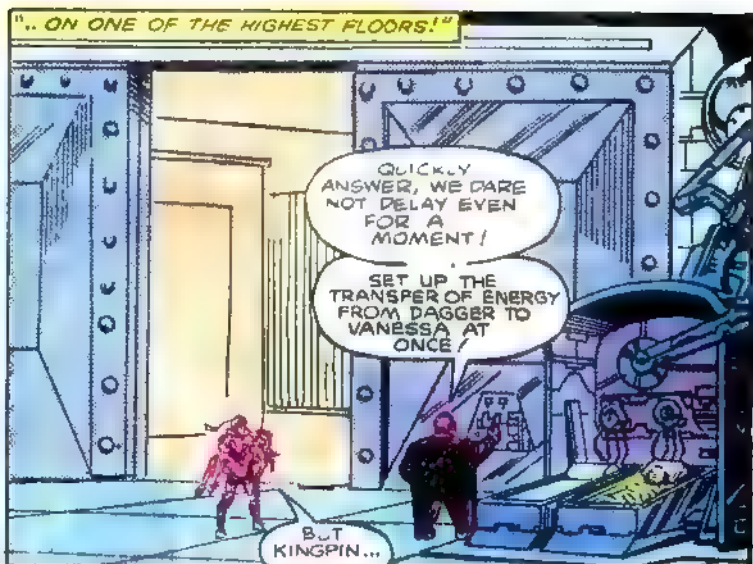


--AND TRANSPORT MYSELF TO DAGGER'S SIDE!

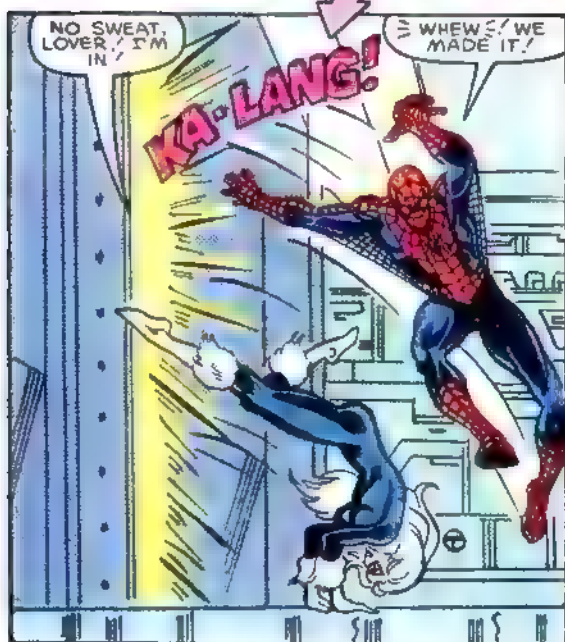
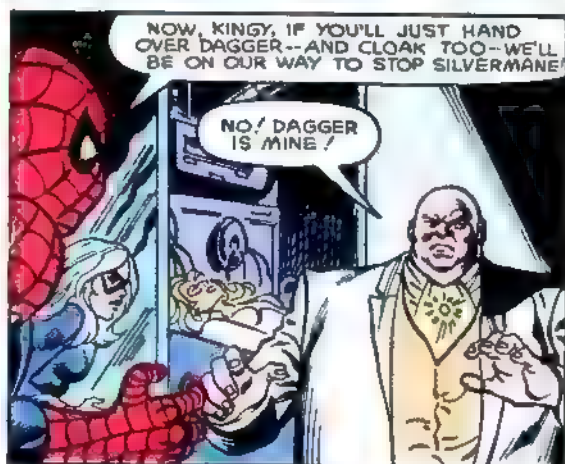
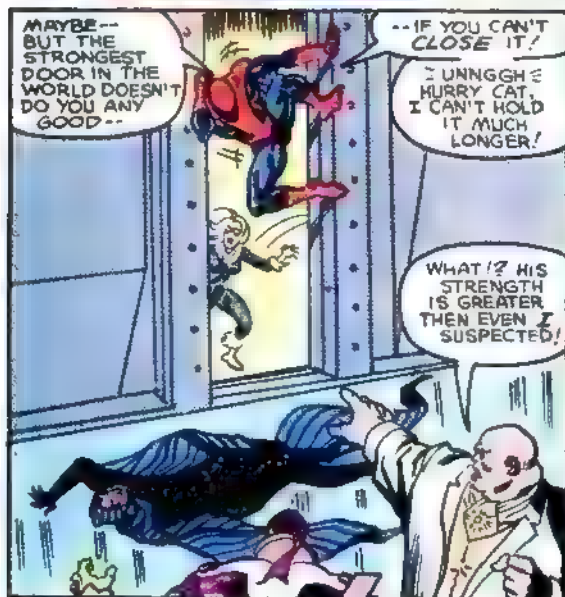




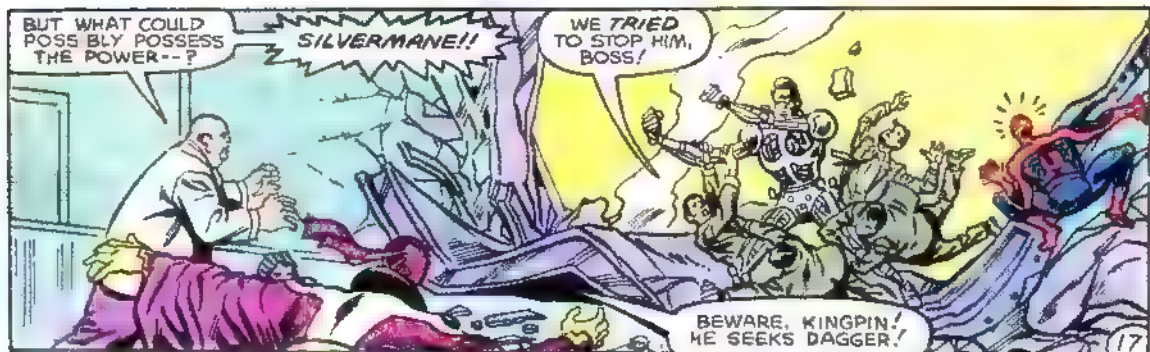
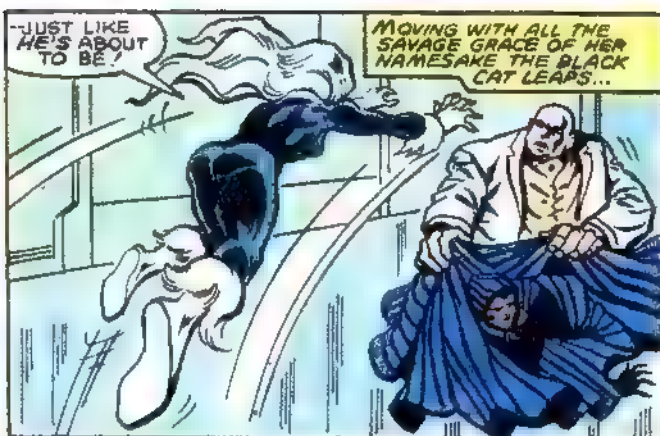
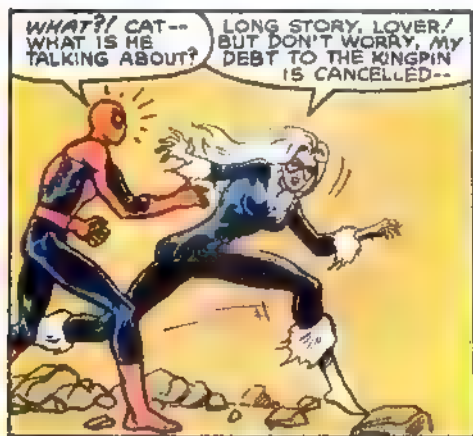












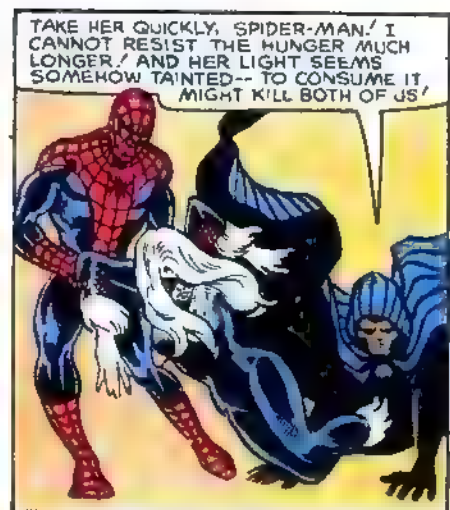




HE WON'T HAVE HER!

HEEDLESS OF THE RISK--THINKING ONLY OF HIS STRICKEN WIFE--THE KINGPIN HURLS HIMSELF BODILY AGAINST THE BIONIC JUGGERNAUT THAT IS SILVERMANE!

BA-TOOOOM!



TAKE HER QUICKLY, SPIDER-MAN! I CANNOT RESIST THE HUNGER MUCH LONGER! AND HER LIGHT SEEMS SOMEHOW TAINTED-- TO CONSUME IT, MIGHT KILL BOTH OF US!



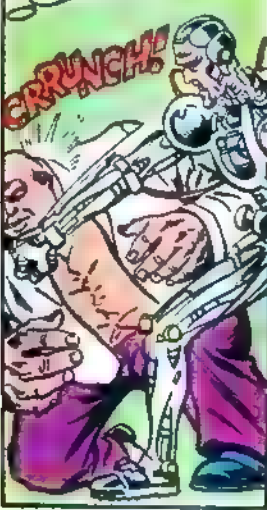
INCREDIBLE! THE KINGPIN IS ACTUALLY HOLDING HIS OWN! POWERFUL AS HE IS, I STILL THOUGHT I WOULD HAVE TO INTERVENE TO SAVE HIM FROM SILVERMANE, BUT...



NO! SILVERMANE HAS LANDED A TELLING BLOW!

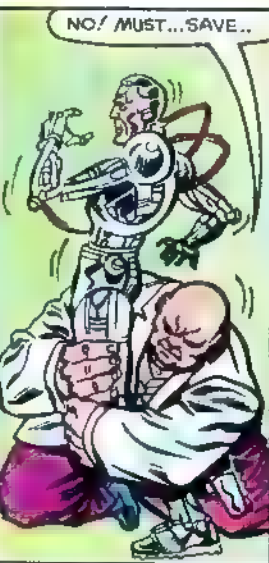


AND ANOTHER...



THE WEIRD COMBINATION OF FORCES THAT GRANT SILVERMANE HIS POWER AND "LIFE" MAKE HIM ALL BUT UNSTOPPABLE!

I CAN COME UP WITH BUT ONE ANSWER TO DEFEAT HIM...



NO! MUST...SAVE...

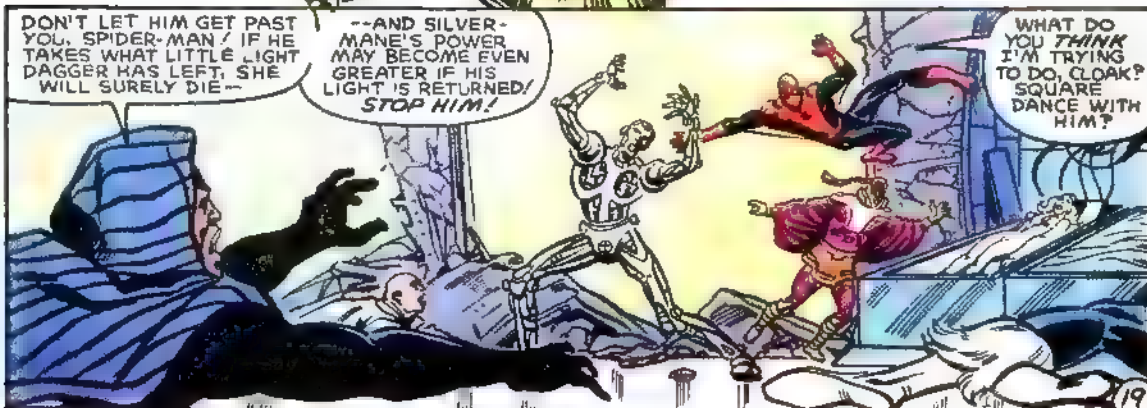
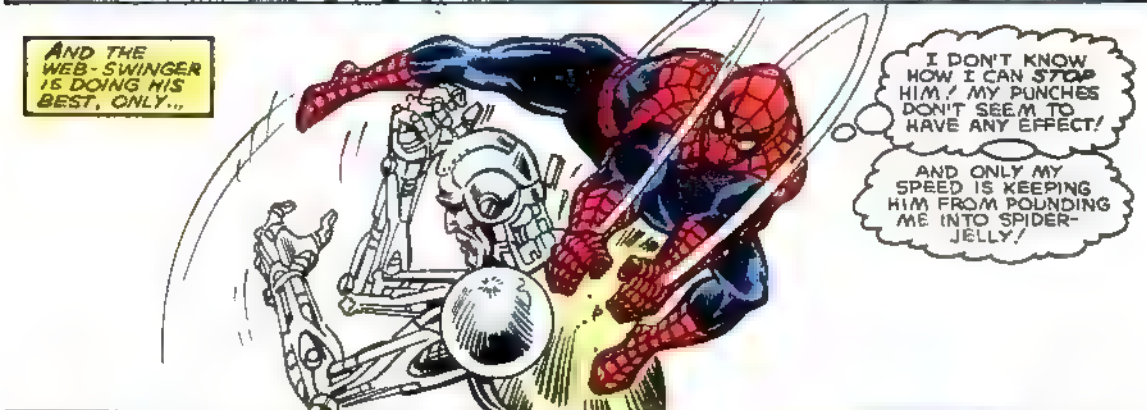
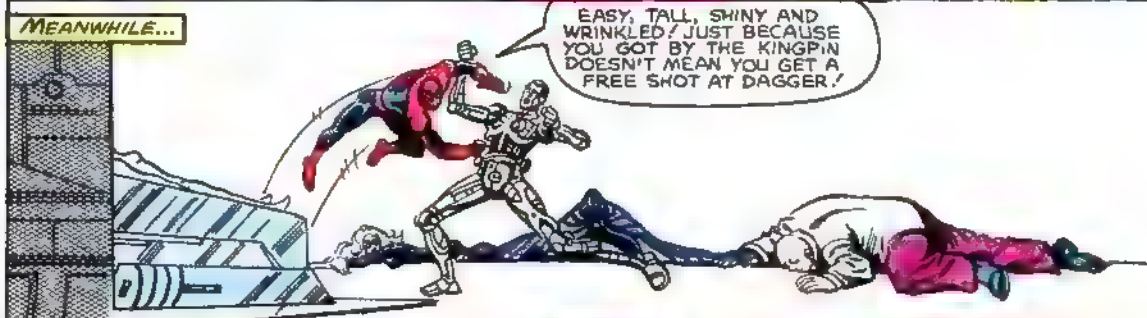
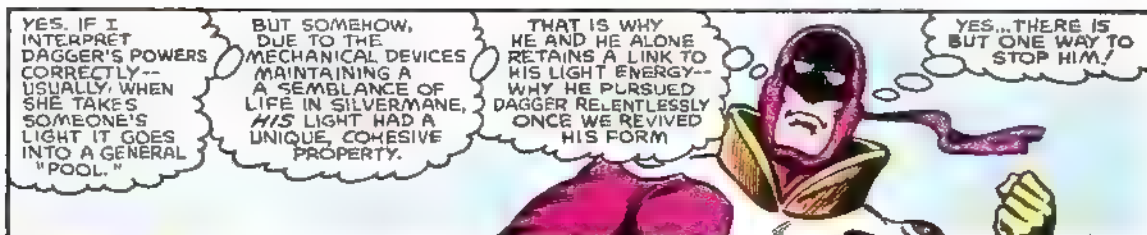
HE MUST BE RESTORED TO FULL LIFE, AND TO DO THAT, DAGGER MUST RETURN THE LIGHT SHE TOOK FROM HIM.



..VANESSA

UNNH!





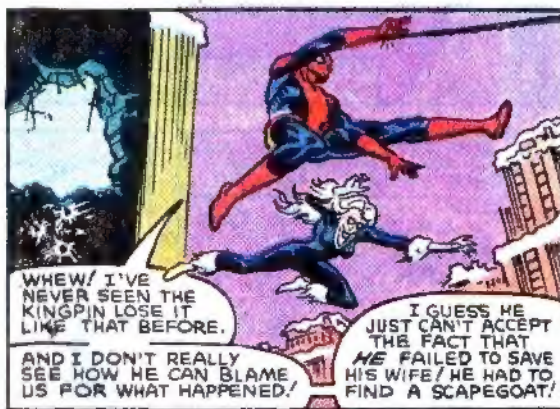
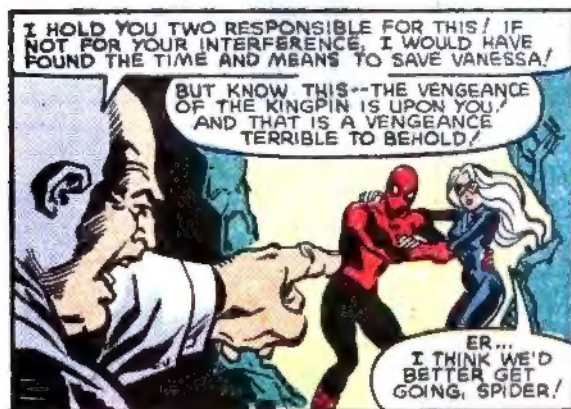




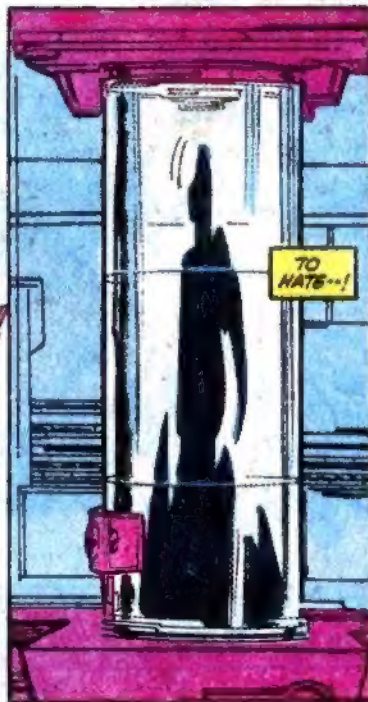
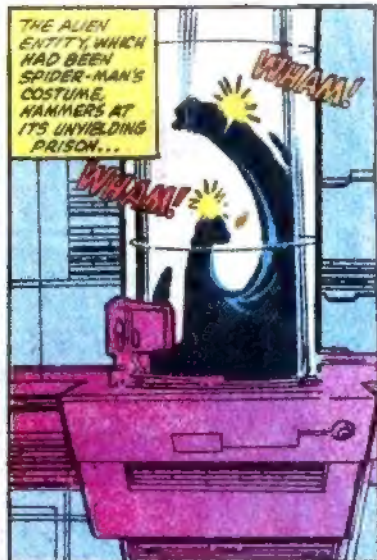












**NEXT ISSUE**

THE MOST OFFBEAT STORY YET! THE MEDIUM IS THE MESS IN:

# HERMIT - AGE!